

REMARKS

The present Office action of April 20, 2007, examined pending claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 21-25. Claims 1, 4-7, 10-11, 14, 17 and 20 had been previously canceled.

Claim objections

The present Office action objects to use of the acronym "CMOS" in claims 3 and 13. Applicant responsively presents amendments herein changing "CMOS" to "complementary metal oxide semiconductor."

Claim rejections

The present Office action rejects claims 2-3, 8-9, 12-13, 15-16, 18-19, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Hayakawa (US. Patent No. 200110037349), and objects to claims 22-25 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, the Office action indicates claims 22-25 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements, steps or limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant responsively herein amends claim 22 to include all the elements, steps or limitations of its base claim 3 and intervening claim 21, cancels claims 3 and 21 and amends claims 2 and 8 to depend on amended claim 22. This places claims 22-25 in condition for allowance, as well as claims 2, 8 and 9, which depend on claim 22 or one of its dependent claims.

In addition, Applicant notes that in Applicant's reply of March 1, 2005, independent claim 13 included all the limitations of claim 3. Applicant herein amends claim 13 to further include the limitations of claims 21 and 22, so that amended claim 13 is also placed in condition for allowance, as well as claims 12, 15, 16, 18 and 19, which depend on claim 13 or one of its dependent claims.

Drawing

The present Office action objects to the previously submitted drawing amendment to Figure 7, which was filed 10/22/2006 to correct certain device polarities in circuitry 171 and 172 of group circuit 144. The objection is on grounds that the amendment introduces new matter. The Office action requests cancellation of the new matter.

Applicant responsively cancels the objected to matter by herein presenting a replacement sheet 6 of 10 setting out an amended Figure 7. More specifically, in the replacement Figure 7

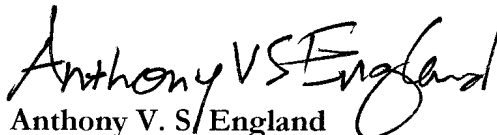
herein, circuitry 171 and circuitry 172 are shown merely as circuit blocks. This conforms Figure 7 to the description of group circuit 144 in the original specification, since the specification did not explicitly describe details of circuitry 171 and 172. See original specification, page 11, lines 12-13 ("Group P circuit 171 and group K circuit 172 are similarly arranged.")

Applicant wishes to state for the record that ample support for the claimed invention is provided without the details of circuitry 171 and 172 canceled in the amended Figure 7 presented herein. For this reason Applicant chooses not to engage in any further effort to embellish the disclosure with details of circuitry 171 and 172 originally presented in Figure 7. Furthermore, the information set out in the original specification enables a person of ordinary skill in the art to readily construct correct signal, device and interconnection details for circuitry 171 and 172, particularly in view of the illustration of logic gates of group circuit 144 and the statement of logic equations for those gates in original Figure 5.

REQUESTED ACTION

Please enter the amendments set out herein above, which are responsive to Examiner's objections and indication of allowability, thereby placing all pending claims in condition for allowance. Applicant requests prompt passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Replacement Sheet 6 (Fig. 7)